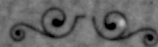


Lebanon
Baptist + Association,
+1895+



Executive Committee.

W. B. Holcomb,

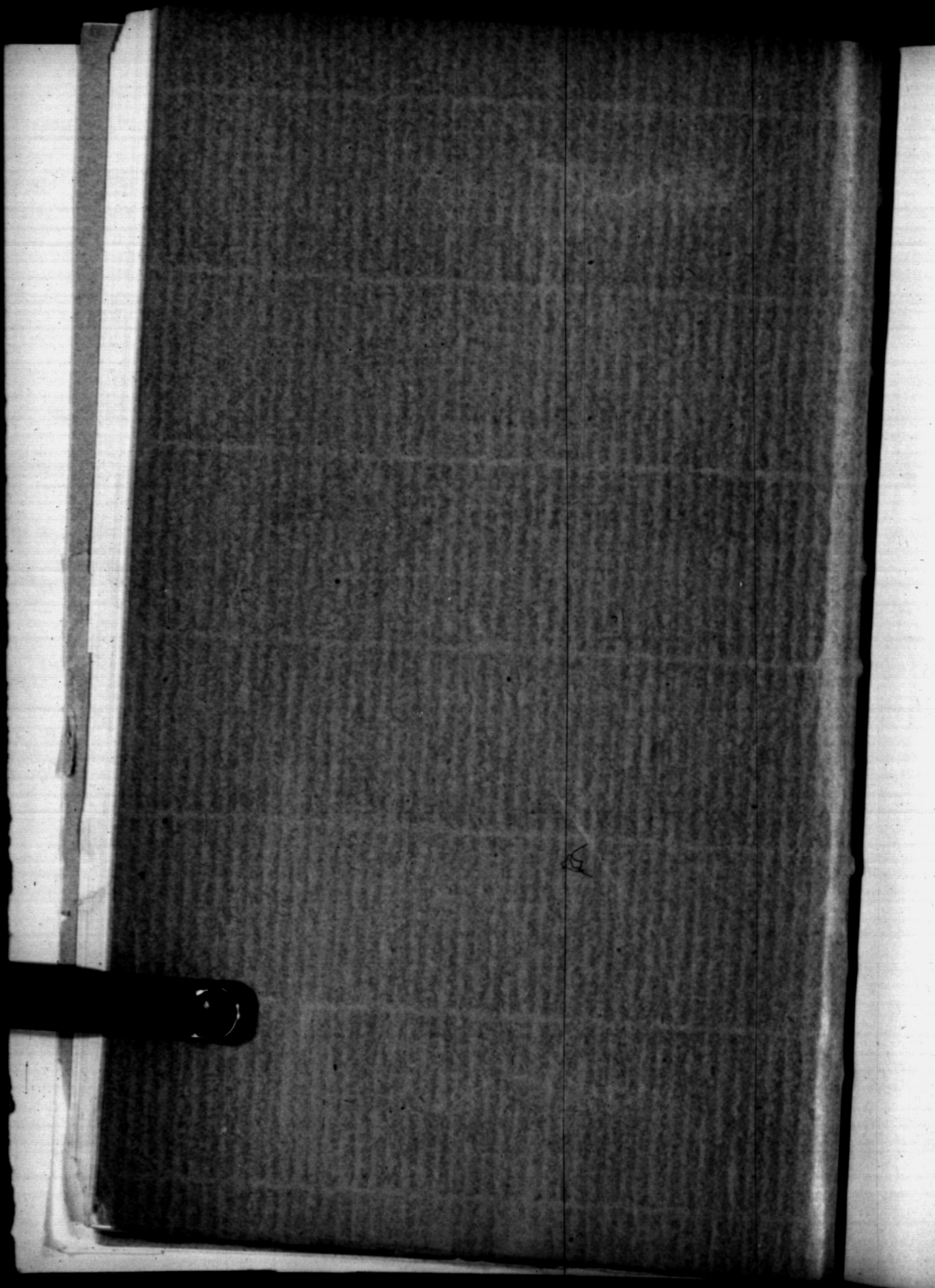
J. F. Parker,

P. E. Williams,

W. M. Conner,

J. M. Thornhill,

O. D. Bowen.




MINUTES

— OF THE —

~ FIRST † ANNUAL † SESSION ~

— OF THE —

Lebanon 

Baptist Association,

— AT —

~ POPLARVILLE, ▪ MISS., ~

SEPTEMBER 12th AND 13th, 1895.

♦

OFFICERS:

O. D. Bowen,

Moderator.

Chas. G. Elliott,

Clerk and Treasurer.

♦

The next meeting of the Association will be held with the Ellisville church, beginning Thursday before the Third Sunday in September, 1896.

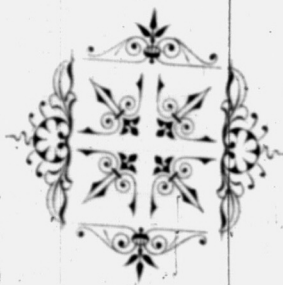
♦

BRANDON, MISS.:

E. B. TABOR, BOOK AND JOB PRINTER,

1895.





MINUTES.

First Day—Morning Session.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator, Brother O. D. Bowen, at 10:20 o'clock. Brother J. R. Farish conducted devotional exercises.

The following committees were appointed:

Finance—W. E. Hathorn, W. T. Hurst, Ernest Williams.

Reading—W. M. Conner, W. I. Thames.

Devotional Exercises—Pastor and deacons of the Poplarville church.

The following delegates responded to the roll call:

Augusta—J. T. Pearce, J. P. Davis.

Eastabuchie—J. D. Bonner.

Ellisville—O. D. Bowen, J. F. Parker, Ernest Williams.

Hattiesburg—L. E. Hall, W. M. Conner.

Immanuel—Chas. G. Elliott, J. R. Farish.

Indian Springs—R. D. Batson, C. W. James, W. E. Hathorn.

Laurel—K. D. Stephens.

Lumberton—E. W. Bond, P. E. Williams.

Nicholson—J. L. Herring.

Poplarville—J. M. Thornhill, W. C. Anderson, W. I. Thames, W. W. Mitchell, S. J. McBride, M. A. Sheppard.

Purvis—Abner Polk, J. D. Purvis, T. C. King, J. L. Boon, W. B. Holcom^b, Hezekiah Slade.

Sandersville—W. T. Hurst, W. J. Hurst.

A motion to perfect the organization was carried, and O. D. Bowen was re-elected Moderator and C. G. Elliott Clerk and Treasurer.

Upon a call for petitionary letters, the church at Heidelberg asked for admission, which was cordially granted, and Brother James Richards seated as its delegate.

[Heidelberg proposed going into the organization last year, and upon failure of the delegates to get off, telegraphed Brother L. E. Hall to represent it at that time, but through some delay, he did not receive it in time to do so.]

The hours for meeting and adjournment were fixed upon as follows:

Meet at 8:30 and adjourn at 11:30 A. M.; meet at 1:30 and adjourn at 5 P. M.; meet at 7:30 and adjourn at pleasure.

The treasurer's report was read and received, showing \$34.80 received and paid out for Associational purposes.

Visiting brethren were invited to seats with us as follows:

A. V. Rowe, corresponding secretary of the State Convention Board, Winona, Miss.

R. A. Venable, pastor First Baptist church, Meridian, Miss.

Elder J. B. Flanagan, Hobolochitto Association.

Elder Newton Breeland, Hobolochitto Association.

Elder J. M. Salmon, Hobolochitto Association.

Elder W. I. Williams, Hobolochitto Association.

Elder W. H. Smith, Hobolochitto Association.

Elder R. N. Davis, Hobolochitto Association.

A. J. Smith, Hobolochitto Association.

H. P. Smith, Hobolochitto Association.

Elder T. E. Clark, Copiah Association.

Elder Thos. Price, Red Creek Association.

The following committees were appointed:

On Missions—L. E. Hall, P. E. Williams, T. C. King, C. W. James.

On Ministerial Education—J. R. Farish, M. A. Sheppard, J. L. Boon.

On Education—W. I. Thames, W. I. Hurst, James Richards.

On Sunday Schools—W. M. Conner, J. M. Thornhill, J. B. Purvis.

On Publications—W. B. Holcomb, W. C. Anderson, J. T. Pearce, E. W. Bond.

On Temperance—W. W. Mitchell, Abner Polk, J. L. Herring, R. D. Batson.

On Nominations—J. D. Bonner, J. F. Parker, S. J. McBride, J. P. Davis.

On Sustentation—W. C. Anderson, Abner Polk, T. C. King.

On Colportage—R. A. Venable, W. E. Hathorn, W. I. Thames.

On Woman's Work—M. A. Sheppard, James Richards, J. T. Pearce.

Adjourned with prayer by Brother Hall.

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First Day—Afternoon Session.

The Association met promptly at 1:30. Prayer by Brother Breeland.

Corresponding messengers to other associations were appointed as follows:

Hobolochitto—W. W. Mitchell, L. E. Hall, S. J. McBride, M. A. Sheppard.

Chickasahay—J. R. Farish, O. D. Bowen, C. G. Elliott, J. F. Parker.

Pearl Leaf—W. B. Holcomb, Abner Polk, T. C. King.

General—J. R. Farish, L. E. Hall, W. W. Mitchell.

Gulf Coast—L. E. Hall, W. B. Holcomb, O. D. Bowen, W. M. Conner.

The following schedule was adopted for Friday morning:

The report on Missions was made special order for 10 o'clock.

Report on Sunday Schools first in order, to be followed by the report on Colportage, unless the hour for the Mission report has arrived, in which case it is the first in order after.

Adjourned with prayer by Brother Venable.

• • •

First Day—Evening Session.

The Association met at 7:30 o'clock to hear the annual

sermon, which was preached, according to appointment, by C. G. Elliott. Text, John ix: 4 (Revised version). Subject, Christian Work.

After the sermon a collection was taken by Brother Farish to pay balance due on last year's Associational expenses and got \$10.20. [The total was \$11.20, but one delegate asked that his contribution (\$1) be placed to the credit of his church; hence to prevent its being added in twice, it is deducted here.]

Adjourned with benediction by Brother Bowen.

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Second Day—Morning Session.

The Association met at 8:30. Brother J. B. Flanagan conducted the devotional exercises.

Minutes of first day were read and approved.

The order of business was suspended and the report of the committee on Nominations was received and adopted as follows:

Report on Nominations.

We nominate Ellisville as the place of holding the next session of this Association, and Thursday at 10 o'clock A. M., before the third Sunday in September, 1896, as the time, and that Elder W. B. Holcomb preach the Associational sermon, with L. E. Hall as alternate.

We nominate Elder L. E. Hall as delegate to the Southern Baptist convention, and Elder O. D. Bowen as his alternate. The Southern Baptist convention will meet at Chattanooga, Tenn., Thursday before the second Sunday in May, 1896.

We nominate the following brethren as delegates to the Baptist State convention which will meet at Starkville, Miss., Thursday before the third Lord's Day in July, 1896, to-wit: J. P. Davis, H. H. McComb, T. J. Hardy, W. M. Conner, J. R. Farish, W. E. Hathorn, H. C. Daughdrill, P. E. Williams, J. L. Herring, W. W. Mitchell and W. B. Holcomb.

We recommend that any of the delegates above nominated, that may be present at the session of the convention, be hereby

authorized to fill out their quota with any brethren from this Association that may be in attendance, if all the delegates nominated are not present.

Respectfully submitted,

J. D. BONNER,
J. F. PARKER,
S. J. McBRIDE,
J. P. DAVIS.

Committee.

Brother W. M. Conner read the

Report on Sunday Schools.

Your committee considers it unnecessary to make a lengthy report on this branch of our work. To say that the Sunday school does not commend itself to one's favorable consideration is equivalent to admitting that we are not well informed, and that we are unfortunately several years behind the times.

Yes, the Sunday school is now recognized by our best informed brethren as one of the essentials in all regular and well governed churches. We note with pleasure the interest manifested by our denomination in this great work; and especially is this the case with most of the churches comprising this Association. We find that ten of them report active Sunday schools with a membership aggregating 758 including officers and teachers. Unfortunately two of the twelve churches make no report at all on this important subject; if they have no Sunday schools we would most earnestly urge upon them the necessity for immediate organization.

God alone is able to estimate the good that is being done through this branch of our church work, and in recognition of this truth we would, with all the earnestness of our nature, urge upon our Baptist brethren everywhere, and especially in the bounds of this Association to be earnest and active in furthering this part of our work.

We note the successful work of Brother Hatch, the Sunday School evangelist of the convention board. He organized fifty-four Sunday schools in his last year's work, beside doing much other work. Cannot our Sunday schools help the Board to support this work by sending a contribution for this purpose?

Fraternally submitted,

W. M. CONNER,
J. M. THORNHILL,
J. B. PURVIS.

Committee.

Spoken to by Brethren Conner and Rowe and adopted.

The following

Report on Colportage

was read by Brother R. A. Venable:

The potency of the printed page in the dissemination of truth and error is well known. All who seek to have their views and doctrines recognized, believed and advocated, employ this instrumentality and their wisdom is justified by the results. This most powerful instrument is being used by God's people in many sections of the country and God is blessing it so signally, as to make it evident that those who neglect it are guilty of unfaithfulness in the use of the means which he gives his people.

Your committee is so thoroughly convinced of the importance of this work that we make the following recommendation:

1. Inasmuch as this body is young and not very strong, we recommend that we seek the co-operation of the Chickasaw Association in the employment of an efficient brother to take up this much needed work in the bounds of the two Associations.

2. We recommend that a committee be appointed from this body consisting of the Moderator and two other brethren whose duty it shall be to confer and co-operate with the mother Association in the arrangement of the details necessary to carry on the work.

3. That the State Board be asked to help us in this work as far as possible in procuring such literature as can be had through the board to the best advantage.

R. A. VENABLE,
W. E. HATHORN,
W. I. THAMES,
Committee.

Discussed by Brethren Venable, Flanagan and Bree-land, and adopted.

The hour having come for the mission report, it was read by Brother Hall, spoken to by Brethren Rowe and Venable and adopted.

Report on Missions.

Your committee on missions find that it is expected that their report shall embrace the entire work under the direction of Southern Baptists. Of course it is impracticable to offer a full re-

port on a work so vast and of such magnitude, and therefore, we submit a general summary of what is being done through our several boards.

L. E. HALL,
P. E. WILLIAMS,
C. W. JAMES,
T. C. KING.

Committee.

STATE MISSIONS.

Number of sermons preached.....	3,434
Church prayer meetings attended.....	1,387
Families visited for religious purposes	3,598
Number of persons baptized.....	544
Baptized by others in meetings, I labored.....	619
Received by letter.....	425
Restored to church fellowship.....	111
Number of churches organized.....	14
Sunday schools organized.....	94
Officers, teachers and scholars in same	1,880
Total number of Sunday schools.....	78
Officers, teachers and scholars in same.....	3,268
Sunday school addresses delivered.....	485
Number of pages of tracts distributed.....	54,600
Subscribers obtained for "Record"	255
Amount pledged on collection book.....	\$499
Amount collected on "collection book" pledges.....	\$52.50
Money collected for personal services.....	\$1,493.85
" " " State Missions.....	605.70
" " " other purposes.....	3,862.30
Number of houses of worship commenced.....	13
Number of houses of worship finished.....	6
Number of houses of worship repaired.....	5

FREQUENCY OF CHURCH MEETINGS.

Of the nine hundred and seventy-three churches in the convention, the following have preaching every Lord's Day: Aberdeen, Blue Mountain, Canton, Columbus, Corinth, Crystal Springs, Greenville, Grenada, Hazlehurst, Jackson, McComb City, Meridian First, Meridian Forty-First Avenue, Meridian Fifteenth Avenue, Natchez, Okolona, Oxford, Senatobia, Summit, Starkville, Viicksburg, Water Valley, West Point, Wesson, Winaona—25.

So far as the minutes show, thirty churches (five more than last year) have preaching two Lord's days in the month, but pos-

sibly there are more not reported. Some of the minutes do not give the information needed here. Clinton has preaching three Lord's days in the month.

Nearly all the churches have preaching not only one Lord's day in each month, but also on the Saturday preceding; and many of them have two sermons on the Lord's day of meeting, the second either in the afternoon with a basket dinner preceding, or at night.

In the following Associations no church has preaching oftener than on one Lord's day in each month: Calhoun, Choctaw, Harmony, Judson, Leaf River, Liberty, Louisville, Magee's Creek, Mississippi River, Oktibbeha, Pearl Leaf, Pearl River, Sipsey, Springfield, Strong River, Tombigbee, Union, West Pearl and Zion.

CHOCTAW INDIANS.

There are about two thousand living in the state. The General Association has been laboring among these people many years. There are eight ordained preachers among them, and their names are set down in our register—John Chitto, Indian Jackson, Isham Johnson, Seaborn Smith, Charley Sturdivant, Charley Thomas, Benj. Williams, Allen Willis. There are eight churches—three in Newton, two in Leake, and one each in Greene, Jasper and Neshoba counties, with an aggregate membership of three hundred. Any church or individual wishing to aid in this work should send contributions to Rev. N. L. Clarke, Newton.

BOARDS OF SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION.

The mission work of the Southern Baptists is committed to the Southern Baptist Convention, and, by this Convention, the work is intrusted to two boards. To the Foreign Board, located at Richmond, Va., is intrusted the mission work in foreign fields. To the Home Board, located at Atlanta, Ga., is intrusted the mission work in the home field. The Sunday School Board, located at Nashville, Tenn., is intrusted with the work of publishing Sunday school literature, and aiding the cause of Sunday schools in general.

Foreign mission countries are divided into three classes:

1. Papal, or Roman Catholic countries, the people of which know something of Christ, but who have been taught to worship the virgin or saints, instead of the Saviour.
2. Pagan countries, the people of which, though civilized, worship idols, such as the Chinese and Japanese.
3. Barbarous countries, where the people are uncivilized and worship idols.

The work of home missions refers to mission work done in our own country and in the island of Cuba, and the subjects are:

1. Those residing in many localities in our large country where the gospel is not preached at all, or where our Baptist principles are not promulgated.
2. The large foreign population within our borders.
3. The numerous colored people in the South, who need religious instruction.
4. The Indians in the West, who are too poor to sustain gospel preaching.
5. The erection of houses of worship.

THE FOREIGN MISSION BOARD.

Its Fields.—Our Foreign Mission Board is carrying on mission work in five countries.—Europe, Asia, South America, Mexico and Africa.

I. The papal or Catholic countries, in which the Foreign Board has missions are Italy, Brazil, South America and Mexico.

1. In papal Italy, where the Pope, the head of Roman Catholicism, lives, we have G. B. Taylor, and J. H. Eager and wife, and fourteen native assistants, and sixteen preaching stations.

2. In Brazil we have nineteen missionaries and ten mission stations.

3. In Mexico, we have thirty missionaries, one native assistant and thirteen mission stations.

II. The pagan countries in which our Foreign Board has missionaries are China and Japan.

1. In China we have forty-one missionaries and twenty-one assistants. This is our oldest and largest mission.

2. In Japan, which is our youngest and smallest mission, we have only six missionaries and two mission stations.

III. The barbarous country in which the Foreign Board sustains a mission is Yoruba, in Central Africa, near the Atlantic shore. In Africa we have eight missionaries and five native assistants. There are 116 church members.

THE HOME MISSION BOARD—GENERAL STATEMENT.

Number of missionaries this year, 425, an increase of 44 over last year, and more than any year of the board's history.

Baptized, 5,921, an increase of 1,451 over last year, and 572 more than have been baptized in any year since the organization of the convention.

Cash receipts, \$88,640.20, being \$15,319.29 larger than last year, and greater than in any previous year, except the Centennial.

The board began the year with a debt of \$6,763.54, has paid on house of worship in New Orleans \$9,476.50, and for church buildings at other points \$2,386.52, a total of \$11,862.12.

After paying missionaries, April 1, its indebtedness was \$23,000, which, May 1, had been reduced to \$1,100, with a balance of \$109.06 in the treasury.

Increase of missionaries has been nearly 12 per cent.; of receipts, 20 per cent., and of Baptisms, 32 per cent.

SUMMARY.

The summary of our work for the past conventional year is as follows:

Missionaries.....	425
Weeks of labor.....	11,466
Churches and stations.....	3,484
Sermons and addresses.....	46,620
Prayer meetings.....	5,774
Baptisms.....	5,921
Received by letter.....	6,519
Total additions.....	10,564
Sunday schools.....	2,110
Teachers and pupils.....	23,702
Religious visits.....	52,089
Churches constituted.....	178
Houses of worship built.....	52
Bibles and Testaments distributed.....	7,392
Traacts distributed.....	584,938

The State Boards of Alabama, Arkansas, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Indian Territory, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Western Arkansas and Western North Carolina are in co-operation with us in a part, or the whole, of their work.

The report of Associational Missionary was attached, as follows:

Dear Brethren: I hand you my report for eight months:

Days of actual service.....	102
Number of miles traveled.....	785
Number of stations.....	6
Number of sermons preached.....	88
Church prayer meetings attended.....	15
Families visited for religious purposes.....	20
Number of persons baptized.....	13
Sunday School addresses delivered.....	3

Money collected for State Missions.....\$ 7 45
 Money collected for other purposes.....22 50

Respectfully submitted,

W. W. MITCHELL.

Adjourned with benediction by Brother Farish.

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Second Day—Afternoon Session.

Met at 1:45. Prayer by Brother Hathorn.

The Moderator was authorized to appoint the executive committee, and by special action of the Association he was added to it. The members of the committee are W. B. Holcomb, W. M. Conner, J. F. Parker, J. M. Thornhill, P. E. Williams, O. D. Bowen.

Committee on Colportage (see report)—O. D. Bowen, L. E. Hall; R. D. Batsón.

The Finance Committee

made the following report:

Received for Associational purposes.....	\$ 45 35
For Foreign Missions.....	4 50
Total.....	\$ 49 85

CR.

By amount paid Treasurer.....\$49 85

Respectfully submitted,

W. E. HATHORN,

W. T. HURST.

ERNEST WILLIAMS.

Brother W. W. Mitchell read the

Report on Temperance.

Your committee on Temperance beg leave to submit the following:

Statistics show that there are more lives destroyed by the use of intoxicating liquors than by any other one means of destruction. And then the untold suffering that is caused by the use of intoxicants as a beverage is fearful. Your committee therefore recommend the use of every available means for the suppression of the liquor traffic. We further recommend that our churches

study the Bible on the question of drinking, and deal with their members accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,

W. W. MITCHELL,

J. L. HERRING,

Committee.

Spoken to by Brethren Mitchell, Hall and Farish, and adopted.

The report of the committee on

Sustentation

was submitted by Brother Anderson, spoken to by Brethren Rowe and Farish, and adopted:

Your committee on Sustentation are constrained to say that there is not a stronger obligation resting on us as Christians than that of taking care of our worn-out brethren in the ministry. The best paid minister is not laying up much "treasure on earth"; many have not received enough money from their churches to reimburse them for their loss of time. They have preached the gospel largely at their own expense. This is especially true of our aged and decrepit ministers. We are happy to know that the Baptists of Mississippi are supplying the wants, to some extent, of such indigent preachers, their widows and orphans. It is to their praise that they are doing so. They should do so for Christ's sake. How strong and how bright the scripture promise stands out to us, "Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was an hungered and ye gave me meat; naked and ye clothed me; I was sick and ye visited me." "Inasmuch as ye did it unto one of these my brethren, ye did it unto me."

We learn that there are twelve or thirteen preachers or their families in the state being helped by their brethren, but that more could be found who need help. Then, brethren, while we are helping in ministerial education, in preparing men to preach more acceptably, and in building up our churches, let us not forget these veterans of the cross who have borne the burden and heat of the day in giving the gospel to our fathers away back in the years that are past, and who are now wanting the necessities of life.

Respectfully submitted,

W. C. ANDERSON,

ABNER POLK,

T. C. KING,

Committee.

Brother Holcomb offered the following report on Publications :

Recognizing the potency of the religious press as a factor in advancing the cause of the Master's kingdom, and in moulding the views of our young people, we recommend that sound literature should be procured. We recommend the Baptist Record and would insist that all of our people take it and the Mission Journal of the Southern Baptist Convention, as well as the Sunday school literature of our Southern Baptist Convention board.

Respectfully submitted,

W. B. HOLCOMB.

Spoken to by Brethren Hall and Farish and adopted.
Brother Sheppard read the

Report on Woman's Work.

Woman was last at the cross and first at the sepulchre. If she led man away from God she has ever since been foremost in leading him back to God. She has always exercised a great influence over man's destiny. She is to-day by her love and zeal for the Master's cause exercising a strong influence in our churches, and our rapid growth within the last decade is largely due to her efforts. We do not believe in women preachers, but we do believe that there is work for women to do, and we believe that with proper aid and encouragement from pastor and church she will naturally fall in line and do her work as she ever has done it, nobly and well. She was given as a help-meet for man and that she has ever been. Encourage them to organize their societies and carry on their work in their own way and the church will realize in her a helper.

By reference to the appended report we see that something has been done in this line during the past year in this Association, but there is great need of more such work.

M. A. SHEPPARD.

JAS. RICHARDS.

J. T. PEARCE.

Committee.

Report of Vice-President of Woman's Work.

In coming to you as vice-president of Woman's Work, I feel that I need your prayerful interest and sympathy, for as I look back over the little accomplished in this year's work by my efforts, I feel that it has been a failure—that I have not done my

whole duty. Woman's Work is an undeveloped theme in the bounds of Lebanon Association. I have written many letters, distributed some mission literature, and am encouraged to hope for better results in the future, trusting that the vice-president of Woman's Work will have the earnest co-operation of the pastors of the different churches during the coming year. We have now only six societies to report—one new and one reorganized. All are weak, but all have responded cheerfully, if not liberally to the different calls for help in our mission work, besides being especially helpful in the building of new houses of worship.

MRS. E. V. CLARK.

Vice-President of Woman's Work, Lebanon Association.

Spoken to by Brethren Sheppard and Bowen and adopted, and Sister E. V. Clark was re-appointed vice-president for the Association.

The report on education was read by Brother W. I. Thames, and the one on ministerial education by Brother Sheppard, and then spoken to by Brethren Venable, Elliott and Farish, and adopted.

Report of the Committee on Education.

We, your committee on Education, beg leave to report as follows:

Man was created by God; he was created in the image of God; he was created for no other purpose than the glory of God. In order that man might glorify God he was endowed with a three-fold nature, physical, moral and mental; and the man who best develops these is the man who will best fill the grand mission for which he was created.

Referring now to mental training, we submit that the end and aim of all true education is the development of character, the elements of which are, love of truth, justice, mercy, benevolence, humility, energy, patience and self-control. Education and Christianity go hand in hand, and an educated and consecrated man is a power for good in any community. We refer with pride to the rapid progress now being made within the bounds of this Association, both in country and towns, and especially to the establishment of splendid high schools. We urge our people to utilize every means in their power to further the cause of Christian education.

We believe that teachers should be men and women conse-

crated to the service of God, that they may teach by example as well as precept.

Believing as we do in Christian education we heartily commend to the people of our state the Mississippi College; and to the Baptists of America the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Respectfully submitted,

W. I. THAMES, Chairman,

W. J. HURST,

JAS. RICHARDS.

Committee.

Apportionment.

In obedience to the instructions given by the Association at Poplarville, the executive committee have made the following apportionment:

CHURCHES.	Home Missions.....	Foreign Missions.....	State Missions.....	Total.....
Augusta	\$ 12 00	3 00	5 00	10 00
Ellisville.....	12 00	15 00	25 00	52 00
Eastabuchie	4 00	6 00	10 00	20 00
Hattiesburg.....	12 00	15 00	25 00	52 00
Heidelberg.....	2 00	4 00	6 60	12 00
Indian Springs.....	2 00	4 00	6 00	12 00
Immanuel	8 00	12 00	20 00	40 00
Laurel	4 00	6 00	10 00	20 00
Lumberton	2 00	3 00	5 00	10 00
Nicholson	1 50	2 50	4 00	8 00
Poplarville.....	5 00	7 00	12 00	24 00
Purvis.....	4 00	6 00	10 00	20 00
Sandersville.....	4 00	4 00	10 00	20 00
Totals.....	\$ 62 50	\$ 89 50	\$ 118 00	\$ 300 00

Respectfully submitted,

W. B. HOLCOMB,

J. M. THORNHILL,

P. E. WILLIAMS,

J. F. PARKER,

O. D. BOWEN,

Executive Committee.

Report on Ministerial Education.

We, your committee on Ministerial Education, beg leave to submit the following report :

The need of an educated ministry is so plain that it needs no discussion to prove it. We don't educate a man to make a preacher of him, but when God calls a man to preach we may greatly increase his usefulness by giving him the means of an education. An education draws out and develops the man, therefore we would urge upon our young men who contemplate entering the ministry, to seek the advantages of an education to aid them in their God-given work. And we would urge our churches to aid young men whom they believe God has called, to prepare themselves for their great work.

We would recommend Mississippi College, located at Clinton, as a school deserving the patronage of all our Baptist people, and we would recommend the "Seminary," located at Louisville, Ky., to those seeking a Theological course. Also we recommend the work of the board of ministerial education.

J. R. FARISH,
M. A. SHEPPARD.
Committee.

Brother Conner presented the following resolution, which was heartily adopted:

RESOLVED, That the thanks of this body be and they are hereby voted the good people of Poplarville and immediate vicinity for the kindness and courtesy shown delegates attending this Association.

By action of the body Dr. Venable was invited to deliver an address on Christian Education before the next Association, at such hour as may be suitable.

On motion the clerk was instructed to have the minutes printed, and he was allowed the usual compensation for his work.

Business having been finished, Brethren McBride, Holcomb and Bowen made informal talks, the minutes were read and approved, and with prayer by Brother Farish the Association was adjourned to meet with the Ellisville church at 10 o'clock on Thursday morning before the third Sunday in September, 1896.

ORDAINED MINISTERS--THEIR POSTOFFICE.

• • •

O. D. Bowen.....	Ellisville, Miss.
Chas. G. Elliott.....	Meridian, Miss.
J. R. Farish.....	Meridian, Miss.
L. E. Hall.....	Hattiesburg, Miss.
W. E. Hathorn.....	Augusta, Miss.
W. B. Holcomb.....	Purvis, Miss.
W. W. Mitchell.....	Poplarville, Miss.
W. A. Roper.....	Heidelberg, Miss.
M. A. Sheppard.....	Poplarville, Miss.
M. G. Turner.....	Ellisville, Miss.

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LICENTIATES.

H. R. Curtis.....	Purvis, Miss.
T. C. King.....	Purvis, Miss.
W. J. Hurst.....	Sandersville, Miss.

CONSTITUTION.

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ARTICLE 1. The name of this Association shall be the Lebanon Baptist Association.

ART. 2. The officers of this Association shall be a Moderator, and a Clerk, who shall also be ex-officio Treasurer. These shall be elected annually by ballot and hold their offices until their successors are elected.

ART. 3. The object of this Association shall be the promotion of the Redeemer's kingdom by the concentration of Christian labor, inculcation of Bible Truth, and the cultivation of friendly intercourse among the churches.

ART. 4. Members of the Association may be of two classes, viz. : Male delegates, and messengers who shall produce evidence of their appointment by the churches which they propose to represent before being entitled to seats. Only the delegates shall have the right to vote.

ART. 5. Each church belonging to the Association shall be entitled to two delegates until its membership shall exceed fifty, and one additional delegate for each additional fifty or fractional part thereof; provided, that ministers who are members of such churches, but supply other pulpits may be appointed as additional delegates to the regular quota.

ART. 6. This Association shall only have the power

of an advisory council and shall in no wise infringe upon the rights or independence of the churches.

ART. 7. No queries shall be considered by the Association unless regularly sent up through the churches, and such queries shall embrace only questions of doctrine.

ART. 8. The Association shall meet annually as may be agreed upon, and after enrolling the names of the delegates, proceed by ballot to the election of a Moderator, and a Clerk who shall be ex-officio Treasurer of the Association.

ART. 9. The duties of the various officers of the Association shall be similar to those of all deliberate bodies, and Mell's Parliamentary Manual shall be the basis of all decisions of order.

ART. 10. Churches holding the Articles of Faith adopted by this body, may become members of this Association by a unanimous vote, and letters of dismission may be obtained without assigning a reason therefor, by the concurrence of a majority present, while the Association retains the right of withdrawing from such churches as it shall deem heterodox or disorderly.

ART. 11. This Constitution may be altered or amended at any annual meeting of the Association by a three-fourths vote of the delegates present.



ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1. We believe in one God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost—equal in power and glory.
2. We believe, that the Scriptures of the Old Testament and the New were written by the inspiration of God, and are the only rule of faith and practice.
3. We believe in the doctrine of original sin, of total

depravity and of man's inability to restore himself to the favor of God.

4. We believe that God chose his people, in Christ, before the foundation of the world, and that they are kept by the power of God through faith unto a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

5. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the imputed righteousness of Christ.

6. We believe that the Gospel is God's appointed means of calling sinners to the knowledge of the truth; and as he has commanded it to be preached to every creature, all are required to obey.

7. We believe that good works are the fruits of faith, and the only evidence of justification; and that all believers will abound therein from a principle of love.

8. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, the just and the unjust, and the general judgment, and that the joys of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.

9. We believe that a visible church of Christ is composed of baptized believers only, who have covenanted to keep up a discipline agreeable to the rules of the New Testament Scriptures.

10. We believe that Jesus Christ is the only lawgiver of His church and that the government is with the church, each member having equal rights therein.

11. We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper are the only ordinances of the church, and are to be continued until the second coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

12. We believe that immersion only is Baptism, and can be administered only by those duly authorized by the church, and that only believers in Christ are the proper subjects of the ordinance.

13. We believe that regularly baptized believers only

have a right to partake of the Lord's Supper.

14. We believe that the churches compose Christ's visible kingdom on the earth, and they are independent of each other; choosing their own bishops and other executive officers, none of whom may lord it over God's heritage.

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RULES OF DECORUM.

1. All meetings of the Association shall be opened with prayer and closed with praise or benediction.
2. The first order of business shall be the calling of the roll of churches comprising the same and the enrollment of delegates representing them.
3. No delegates can be enrolled until they furnish evidence in writing from the church which they propose to represent; which evidence shall be submitted to the Clerk.
4. No business shall be discussed by this body unless it shall have been brought up before it by a motion sustained by a second.
5. No member shall be allowed to speak but once on the same subject, except by permission.
6. The Moderator may correct any speaker for misquotation, personal reflection, or indiscreet language.
7. Any member feeling himself aggrieved by the ruling of the Moderator may appeal to the Association, when, if it be sustained by a two-thirds vote, the Moderator's ruling shall be reversed.
8. All members shall use the term "Brother," when addressing or speaking of each other; and any one failing to observe this rule subjects himself to a reprimand by the Moderator.
9. Any or all of the rules may be altered or amended at any regular meeting by a two-thirds majority vote.

Aggregate Contributions from Church, Sunday

CHURCHES.	State Missions.....	Home Missions.....	Foreign Missions.....	Sustentation.....	Ministerial Education.....	Southern Baptist Theo'l Seminary.....	Mississippi College.....
Augusta.....	6 00						
Eastabuchie.....	6 70		8 00	3 55	3 55		
Ellisville.....	34 25	\$ 25 00	36 20	9 80	9 80		
Hattiesburg.....	14 40	13 35	18 89				
Heidelberg.....			8 50				
Immanuel.....	11 85	19 80	25 30	6 35	19 25	25 00	
Indian Springs.....	6 00		5 00				
Laurel.....	20 00		8 65				
Lumberton.....							
Nicholson.....							
Poplarville.....	5 00			2 71	3 16		2 1
Purvis.....	10 00		6 75	1 40			
Sandersville.....	10 05		9 85	2 75	2 75		
Totals.....	\$ 124 25	\$ 58 15	\$ 127 14	\$26 56	\$38 51	\$25 00	\$ 2 1

REMARKS.

Hattiesburg's church expenses include remodeling, while Immanuel and L. expenses.

Sunday School Statistics.

CHURCHES.	SUPERINTENDENT.	SECRETARY.	No. Months Held.....	Officers and Teachers.....	Scholars.....	Average Attendance.....	Literature Used.....	No. Papers and Quaterlies.....	No. Volumes in Library.....	Baptized During the year.....	Mission Schools.....	State Missions.....	Foreign Missions.....	Sustentation.....	Sunday School Expenses.....
Augusta.....															
Eastabuchie.....	H. H. McComb.....	Mary Hall.....	12	8	70	55	C.	65		2					\$10 1
Ellisville.....	T. J. Hardy.....	Stanley Craft.....	12	10	120	80	C.	130		1					
Hattiesburg.....	W. M. Conner.....	J. E. Arledge.....	12	9	150	65	C.			1		\$ 5 00	\$ 3 89		18 8
Heidelberg.....															
Immanuel.....	B. F. Quarles.....	B. C. Thames.....	12	8	42	33	C.	95	58	1					
Indian Springs.....	R. D. Batson.....	J. F. Mixon.....	4	5	25	50	C.	25		6					2 4
Laurel.....	M. C. Bowen.....				76					6		20 00			29 10
Lumberton.....															
Nicholson.....	H. W. Stockstill.....	Iva Bates.....		5	42	25	C.								
Poplarville.....	W. C. Anderson.....	H. E. Smith.....	12	10	63		C.	75							
Purvis.....				10	103									\$ 2 71	
Sandersville.....	K. C. Hall.....	T. J. Wallace.....	12	4	49	35	C.	45		2					8 08
Totals.....			83	740	348			435	58	19	1	\$25 00	\$ 3 89	\$ 2 71	\$68 71

REMARKS.

C—Convention Series of Literature.
In Immanuel church everything goes into the church treasury and is recorded there. It has no woman's rate organizations. Laurel simply reported \$20 for missions; without knowing more, it goes into the state

Church, Sunday School and Woman's Society.

Ministerial Education.	Southern Baptist Theo'l Seminary	Mississippi College	Local Benevolence	Sunday School Work.	Sunday School Expenses.	Pastor's Salary.....	Printing Minutes..	General Fund.....	Other Church Expenses.	Total.....
3 55					10 15	100 00	2 50			108 50
9 80				12 80	18 89	150 00	3 75		162 45	348 15
						500 00	8 00	20 00	36 00	691 85
						450 00	5 00		602 38	1,122 91
19 25	25 00		11 75			150 00	1 50		44 25	204 25
						439 00	2 50	154 85	416 65	1,132 30
					2 43	100 00	2 00		6 15	121 58
					29 16	200 00	5 65		1,375 00	1,638 46
							2 50			2 50
3 16		2 16				102 00	1 00			103 00
				11 75		120 00	5 00			138 03
2 75					8 08	100 00	4 00		41 00	174 90
						200 00	4 60		14 80	252 88
\$38 51	\$25 00	\$ 2 16	\$11 75	\$24 55	68 71	2,611 00	48 00	174 85	2,698 68	6,039 31

REMARKS.

Immanuel and Laurel include building, and the former also Sunday school

Woman's Missionary Societies.

Foreign Missions.....	Sustentation.....	Sunday School Expenses.....	Sunday School Work.....	Total.....	PRESIDENT.	SECRETARY.	Home Missions.....	Foreign Missions.....	Church Expenses.....	Total.....
\$ 3 89	\$10 15	\$12 80	\$ 10 15	12 80	Miss M. Montague.....	Mrs. L. Montague.....	\$13 35	3 25	34 45	51 05
	18 89		27 78							
	2 43		2 43							
	29 16		49 16							
\$ 2 71			2 71							
	8 08		8 08							
3 89	2 71	8 71	12 80	113 11			13 35	3 25	34 45	51 05

REMARKS.

It has no woman's society, they believe that the church is the proper sphere of work without separating into the state mission column.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	POSTOFFICE.	COUNTY.	Miles to nearest Baptist church.	Organized.	Value of Property.	Seating Capacity.	Value of Pastor's Home.	Days of Preaching.	Prayer Meeting.	Conference.	PASTORS.	CLERKS.	CLERKS' POSTOFFICE.	Additions.			Lost.			Total Membership.	Reported Last Year.	State Missions.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Sustentation.	Ministerial Education.	Southern Baptist Theolog'1 Seminary.	Mississippi College.	Local Benevolence.	Sunday School Work.	Pastor's Salary.	Printing Minutes.	General Fund.	Other Church Expenses.	Total.	
														Baptisms.	By Letter.	Restorations.	By Letter.	Exclusion.	Death.																	Erasure.
Augusta.....	Augusta.....	Perry.....	4	1884	600 00	300		3	W. M.		L. E. Hall.....	W. T. McCoy.....	Augusta.....	6	3		3	1		64	59	\$ 6 00														
Eastabuchie.....	Eastabuchie.....	Perry.....	4	1884	600 00	300		3	W. M.		O. D. Bowen.....	H. H. McComb.....	Eastabuchie.....	12	7		4	12		59	56	6 70														
Ellisville.....	Ellisville.....	Jones.....	6	1882	3,000 00	300	\$800 00	2, 4	W. M.		O. D. Bowen.....	J. M. Rush.....	Ellisville.....	1	9	1	14	1		202	207	34 25	\$25 00													
Hattiesburg.....	Hattiesburg.....	Perry.....	3	1884	2,000 00	500		1, 3, 4	W. M.		L. E. Hall.....	Frank Smith.....	Hattiesburg.....	1	15	4	26	12		185	193	9 40														
Heidelberg.....	Heidelberg.....	Jasper.....	12 1/2								J. K. Farish.....	S. Q. Donald.....	Heidelberg.....	1	5		6			20																
Immanuel.....	Meridian.....	Lauderdale.....		1884	1,000 00	150		1, 2, 3, 4	W. M.		Chas. G. Elliott.....	R. P. Pool.....	Meridian.....	1	12		1			30	28	11 85	\$19 80													
Indian Springs.....	Batson.....	Perry.....	3	1882	300 00	200		12	M.		L. E. Hall.....	C. W. James.....	Hattiesburg.....	13	12	12	3	1	1	22	65	6 00														
Laurel.....	Laurel.....	Jones.....			1,500 00	400					W. S. Culpepper.....	M. C. Bowen.....	Laurel.....	8	16		14	5		108	103															
Lumberton.....	Lumberton.....	Hancock.....	1	1882	1,000 00	500		1			W. B. Holcomb.....	W. A. Landrum.....	Lumberton.....	3			18			41	56															
Nicholson.....	Nicholson.....	Pearl River.....	5		1,000 00			12	W. M.		L. E. Hall.....	W. W. Stockstill.....	Nicholson.....	4	3					20	17															
Poplarville.....	Poplarville.....										W. B. Holcomb.....	W. H. Rich.....	Poplarville.....	4	11		7			104	98	5 00			3 16											
Purvis.....	Purvis.....										W. B. Holcomb.....	H. R. Curtis.....	Purvis.....	7	20	1	26	3		181	182	10 00														
Sandersville.....	Sandersville.....	Jones.....	4	1882	400 00	200		1	W. M.		O. D. Bowen.....	A. McDaniel.....	Sandersville.....	2	3		5			87	87	10 05														
					10,800 00	2500	\$800 00							49	96	8	125	17	4	11183	1151	\$99 25	\$44 80	\$20 00	\$23 85	\$38 51	\$25 00	2 16	\$11 75	\$11 75	\$2611 00	\$48 00	174 85	\$2664 23	\$5875 15	

REMARKS.

W—Weekly; M—Monthly.
Days of preaching figures refer to the Sunday. Indian Springs also has preaching on Saturday before.
On account of a new kind of letter some reports were badly mixed. The difference in "members reported last year" and the minutes for that year comes from differences in some of the letters. Some churches reported "money for minutes" sent last year and this.

